

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-18 are pending in the application. By this amendment, claim 1 is amended.

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 3-18 under 35 USC 102 over Kambayashi (USP 5,369,751). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites a channel unit, a plurality of cache units and a plurality of control units are included in a disk controller, the channel unit being connected to a plurality of the cache units, and that the cache units transfer data to and from an upper-level system and received at and transferred from said channel unit. This feature provides the advantage that if one of the cache units fails, data access may be made through other cache units.

Kambayashi does not disclose this feature. In Kambayashi, the disk cache control unit 4 includes the upper-rank interface controllers 43 and 44 and the channel unit 3 is arranged out of the disk cache control unit 4. The channel unit 3 conveys commands and data between the main storage 2 and the outside in response to a command from the CPU 1. The channel unit 3 is used to communicate with the upper-rank interface controllers 43 and 44 in the disk cache control unit 4.

Thus Kambayashi is different from the claim 1 invention in that it does not: 1) have a channel unit included in the disk controller, the disk controller also including the cache units and the control units, or 2) include a channel unit that writes data into cache units and reads data from the cache units. Further, Kambayashi only has one cache memory 41 for storing the write data received from the upper-rank interface controllers 43 and 44, while the claimed invention includes a plurality of cache units.


For the above reasons, it is submitted that claim 1 and all claims dependent therefrom are not anticipated by Kambayashi. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

For the above reasons, it is submitted that none of the pending claims are anticipated by or obvious over the applied references. Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4200 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

The Office is authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or credit of any overpayment to Kenyon & Kenyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,


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